

SPECIFICATION

BE IT KNOWN, that I, Steven R. Cratty, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 463 Dinnerbell Road, Butler, PA 16002-7703, have invented certain new and useful improvements in:

PROTECTIVE PONCHO TYPE OUTER GARMENT

of which the following is a specification.

PROTECTIVE PONCHO TYPE OUTER GARMENT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to body garments and more particularly to protective poncho type outer garments.

5 It is an object of the present invention to provide a waterproof poncho type garment for hikers, backpackers, hunters, other sportsmen and stadium sport viewers which can cover a backpack yet tightly conform to the body without a backpack and provide ultimate protection and convenience of use.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 The protective poncho outer garment of the present invention is designed to be worn about the upper body torso and is comprised of a main body panel having a shoulder panel portion with a neck opening for passage of the wearer's head and front and back panel portions which are fully opened at the sides. A pair of opposed outwardly extending sleeves are respectively secured to opposite sides of the shoulder portion.

15 A first adjustable waist belt is secured to opposite sides of the front panel portion and is provided with a buckle fastener for securement of the first belt at the back of wearer. Similarly,

a second adjustable waist belt is secured to the opposite sides of the back panel portion and is also provided with a buckle fastener for securement of the second or back panel portion at the front of the wearer.

5 This combination permits the front and back panel portions to be readily adjusted to fit the body of the wearer with or without a backpack or with and without other undergarments, such as, heavy coats, belt packs, etc.

10 Another feature of the poncho style outer garment of the present invention is that the sleeves have forearm portions and upper arm portions wherein the forearm portions are provided in the form of continuous tubular closed sleeves and the upper arm portions are open at the bottom not only to provide adequate ventilation, but to also provide alternative protrusion therethrough of the wearer's arms. The outer distal ends of the tubular sleeves may be provided with elastic closures. Accordingly, the forearms and undergarment sleeves thereunder are fully protected thereabout at the distal end of the outer garment.

15 The upper arm portion of the sleeves, which are open underneath, also overlap the shoulder portion of the main body panel and the upper arm portions of the sleeves expand in area as they approach the shoulder portion of the garment. This provides a large overlay of the sleeves at the shoulder area so that when the front panel portion and back panel portion are adjustably secured about the body of the wearer, the side edges of the front and back panel portions are

permitted to overlap at the underarm area without interfering with the open underarm exposure provided by the upper arm portions of the sleeves.

In conventional fashion, the garment may also be provided with a hood and may further provide a storage pocket on either the front or back panel portions which is dimensioned for
5 stuffing the garment itself therein for self-storage. The garment may be made of any conventional light weight weatherproof fabric, such as, rip stop nylon.

It is preferable that the front and back panel portions of the garment are narrower in the side-to-side dimension adjacent the shoulder area so that extra protective fabric is provided at the bottom of the garment for wrapping about the body of the wearer. The narrowing of the
10 dimensions just below the shoulder area, for example at the chest area, may be accomplished by the use of pleats.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The other objects and advantages appear hereinafter in the following description and claims. The accompanying drawings show for the purpose of exemplification certain practical
15 embodiments of the present invention without limiting the scope of the invention or appended claims, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the protective poncho type outer garment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a view in back elevation of the garment shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of a precut sleeve of the garment shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 prior
5 to modification and assembly into the final product illustrated; and

FIG. 4 is a plan view of the main body panel prior to assembly with associated parts for the protective poncho type outer garment of FIGS. 1 and 2.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring to the drawings, the protective poncho type outer garment 10 of the present
10 invention is constructed of a water resistant fabric, such as rip stop nylon, and is designed to be worn about the upper body torso of a person. The garment 10 is constructed of a main body panel 11 having a shoulder panel portion 12 with a neck opening 13 (see FIG. 4) for passage of a wearer's head and a front panel portion 14 and a back panel portion 15. The front and back portions 14 and 15 are left open entirely at the sides 16 and 17 respectively to provide maximum adjustable wrapping
15 about the wearer's body. A pair of opposed outwardly extending sleeves 18 are provided and they are respectively secured to opposite sides of the shoulder portion 12. The sleeves 18 have forearm portions 19 and upper arm portions 20. The forearm portions 19 are fully closed and are continuous

tubular sleeves with elastic wrist closures 21 on the distal ends. A hood 22 is secured to the shoulder portion 12 adjacent the neck opening 13.

The front panel portion 14 and the back panel portion 15 are wider at the bottom than at the shoulder area of shoulder portion 12 so that extra material is provided at the bottom of the garment to readily and adjustably wrap around the body of the wearer and any other underlying objects such as heavy clothing or backpacks. In order to make the garment narrower in the chest area at the front and back portions to accomplish this objective, pleats 22 are provided. The upper arm portions 18 of the sleeves are open as indicated at 23 for alternate protrusion therethrough of the wearer's arms, instead of the normal insertion through the tubular forearm portions 19, and to also continuously provide adequate underarm ventilation.

A first adjustable waist belt 25 is secured to opposite sides 16 of front panel portion 14 and is provided with a buckle fastener 26 so that the wearer can secure first belt 25 with the buckle 26 at the back. This permits wrapping of the front panel portion 14 around the body of the wearer with adjustable lengthening or shortening of belt 25 to accommodate any clothing protruding underneath the front panel portion 14.

Similarly, a second adjustable waist belt 27 is secured to opposite sides 17 of back panel portion 15 and this belt is also provided with a buckle fastener 28 for securement of the second belt 27 at the front of the wearer. This permits the back panel portion 15 to be adjustably wrapped about the body of the wearer and to cover over any backpack or other objects carried on the back of

the wearer and to securely wrap the back panel 15 about the wearer so that the side edges of the front panel portion 14 and the back panel portion 15 are well overlapped to prevent any ingress of fowl weather.

5 The proximal ends 30 of sleeves 18 expand in area at these proximal ends as illustrated in the figures to provide large overlap so that fowl weather cannot enter under the open armpit areas. This large overlap of the upper portion of the sleeves also permits the front panel portion 14 and back panel portion 15 to overlap at the sides without interfering with ventilation under the armpit areas 23 and also without interfering with the alternative possibility of the wearer protruding his or her arms through these underarm open areas at 23 instead of through the closed
10 tubular forearm sleeve portions 19.

A storage pocket 35 is provided on the front panel portion 14 and is dimensioned for stuffing the entire garment 10 therein for self-storage.